# WELCOME TO VILLAGE 7 CONSULTATION

Gilston Area
VILLAGE
SEVEN

# WELCOME TO OUR PUBLIC CONSULTATION EVENT ON THE EMERGING MASTERPLAN PROPOSAL FOR VILLAGE 7.

#### **THE JOURNEY SO FAR:**

- » Village 7 forms part of the Gilston Area, which comprises of seven villages and is an integral part of the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town designation.
- » Village 7 will deliver up to 1,500 new homes, supported by a primary school, infrastructure, a Village Centre which includes a wide range of local shops, amenities, offices, a mobility hub and an extensive area of open space for everyone to enjoy.
- » Villages 1-6 form part of the Gilston Park Estate are being brought forward simultaneously to Village 7 by Places for People (PfP).
- » Village 7 received resolution to grant outline planning consent from East Herts District Council in March 2023.
- » The proposed development is scheduled to start construction in 2025.

#### PREVIOUS CONSULTATION EVENTS:

- » Public Exhibition 1 Saturday 28th Oct 2023 Eastwick and Gilston Village Hall
- » Public Exhibition 2 Tuesday 31st Oct 2023 Eastwick and Gilston Village Hall
- » Public Webinar Thursday 2nd Nov 2023
- » Public Exhibition 3 Wednesday 15th Nov 2023 - Hunsdon Village Hall
- » Pop-Up Event 1 Wednesday 15th Nov 2023 Harvey Centre
- » Pop-Up Event 2 Thursday 16th Nov 2023 Harvey Centre

#### WHY WE ARE HERE:

- » Taylor Wimpey is now starting to prepare and develop the next layer of detail to create a Village Masterplan and Design Code, that all future detailed design proposals will need to accord with. This will build upon the outline planning parameters established by the resolution to grant in March 2023.
- » Taylor Wimpey is seeking your views and opinions on the Village 7 proposal to help inform the proposals ahead of submission of the Masterplan.



At this consultation event you will find members of our project team with a range of technical expertise who have been working on the design of Village 7.

## AT THIS EXHIBITION, YOU CAN:

- SPEAK TO THE TEAM
- JOIN OUR WORKSHOPS TO DEVELOP THE PLANS
- CONTRIBUTE AND GIVE FEEDBACK ON THE IDEAS AND ASPIRATIONS FOR VILLAGE 7



## About Taylor Wimpey

Taylor Wimpey is one of the UK's biggest housebuilders with a history stretching back to 1880. We are committed to the communities in which we operate and those we help create. Our commitment to local communities means that we work with local people to create places they can be proud of.

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# VILLAGE 7 KEY DESIGN PRINCIPLES SEVEN

# Gilston Area VILLAGE

A set of design opportunities have been identified through layering the sites constraints, and natural and historic assets, creating a responsive and sustainable development. This landscape-led strategy creates the rationale for the Village 7 masterplan framework and to guide the detailed design as development comes forward.

#### **KEY DESIGN PRINCIPLES:**

- » Respect and enhance the setting of heritage and landscape assets within and around the Site, including Hunsdon House, the Grade II Listed Brickhouse Farm Barns and Lord's Wood Ancient Woodland.
- » Retention of the Brickhouse Barns Grade II Listed Building to form a key community facilities and destination within Village 7.
- » Retention and enhancement of the Remnant Orchards to the East of Brickhouse Farm.
- » Protection of Cherished Views identified within and around the Site to ensure key views and vistas are preserved.
- » Creation of a well-connected network of north-south and east-west green corridors, linking together key open spaces, play areas, allotments, local centres, hubs and residential

- » Enhancement of existing PRoWs and Heritage trail as identified in the wider Gilston Area Strategic Landscape Masterplan (SLMP).
- » Provision of a Sustainable Transport Corridor (STC) and Hub at the heart of Village 7, connecting the A414 to the south, the Village Centre and Village 6 to the east.
- » Transformation of the existing Church Lane into a key active travel spine that is safe and central to the development.
- » Provision of a Football Hub and associated pavilion building along the northern edge of the development, which will act as a shared facility within the wider Gilston Area as identified in the SLMP.
- » Co-location of commercial, retail, office and flexible uses within the Village Centre at the heart of Village 7 to create a vibrant and attractive destination.



Heritage Trail

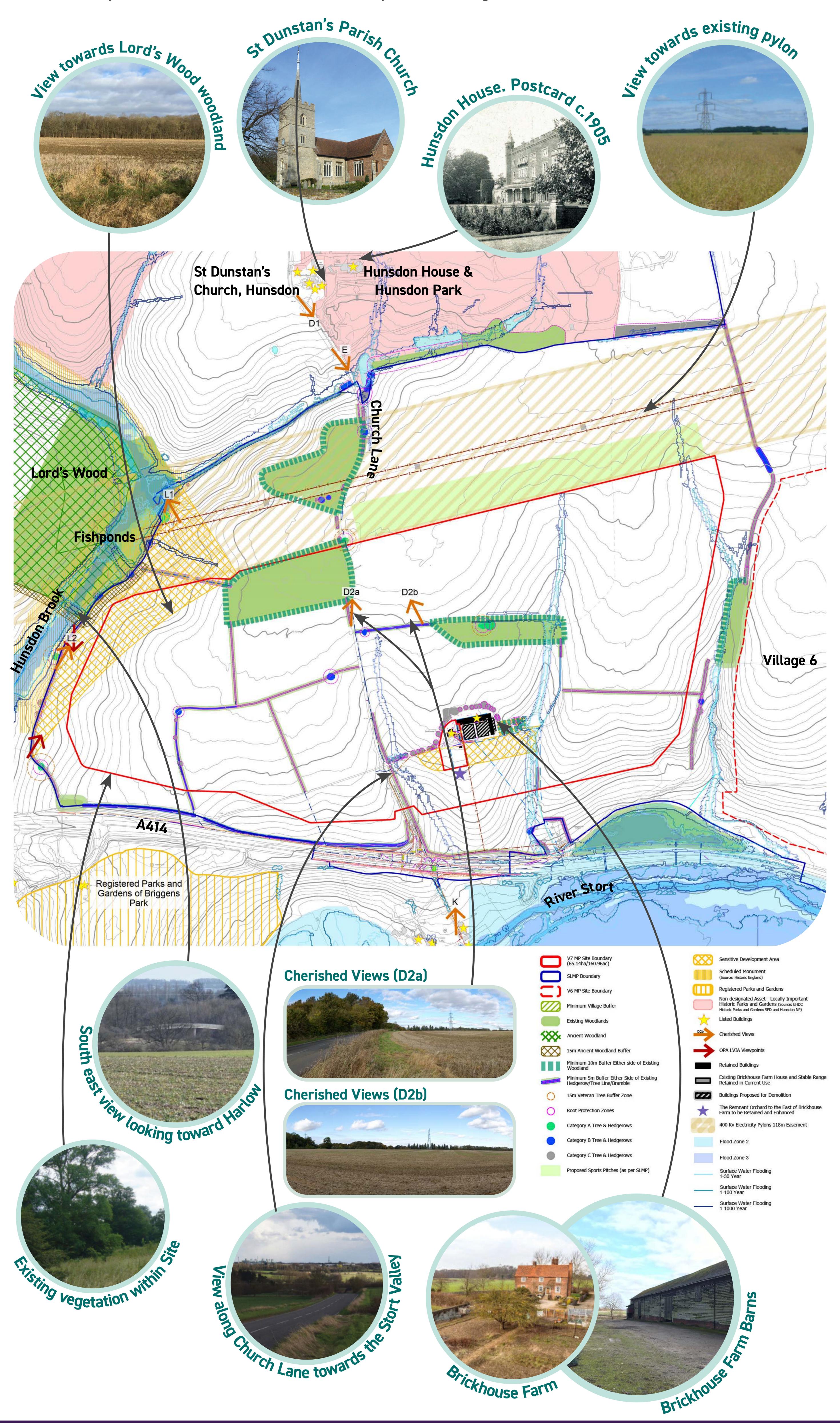
**Green Space** 

# SITE APPRAISAL

# Gilston Area VILLAGE SEVEN

Village 7 has been carefully designed to create a distinct identity whilst respecting and enhancing the existing character and heritage of the neighbouring settlements.

Various detailed technical assessments have been carried out to ensure that the emerging proposals are **sympathetic to the local and wider context** and have been informed by the landscape visual assessment supporting the scheme. This ensures that the landscape and heritage assets within the wider context are considered and protected. **Lord's Wood ancient woodland** located west of the site **will be protected** and the listed **Brickhouse Barns heritage asset located within the site boundary will be at the heart of the placemaking strategy** to ensure it brings distinctiveness and a sense of identity and character to the future community, thus securing its enhancement and conservation.



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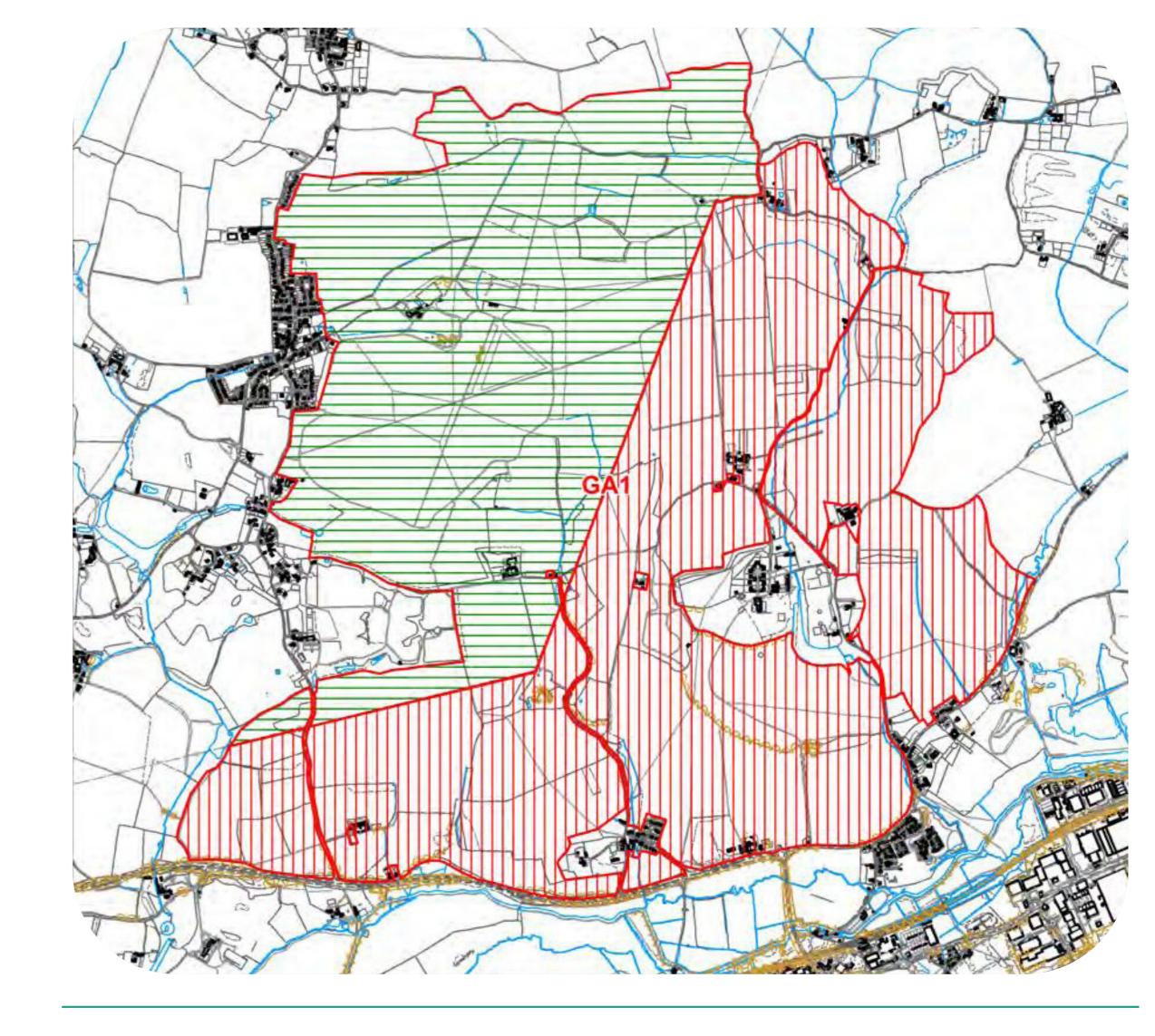
# THE PLANNING PROCESS

# Gilston Area VILLAGE SEVEN

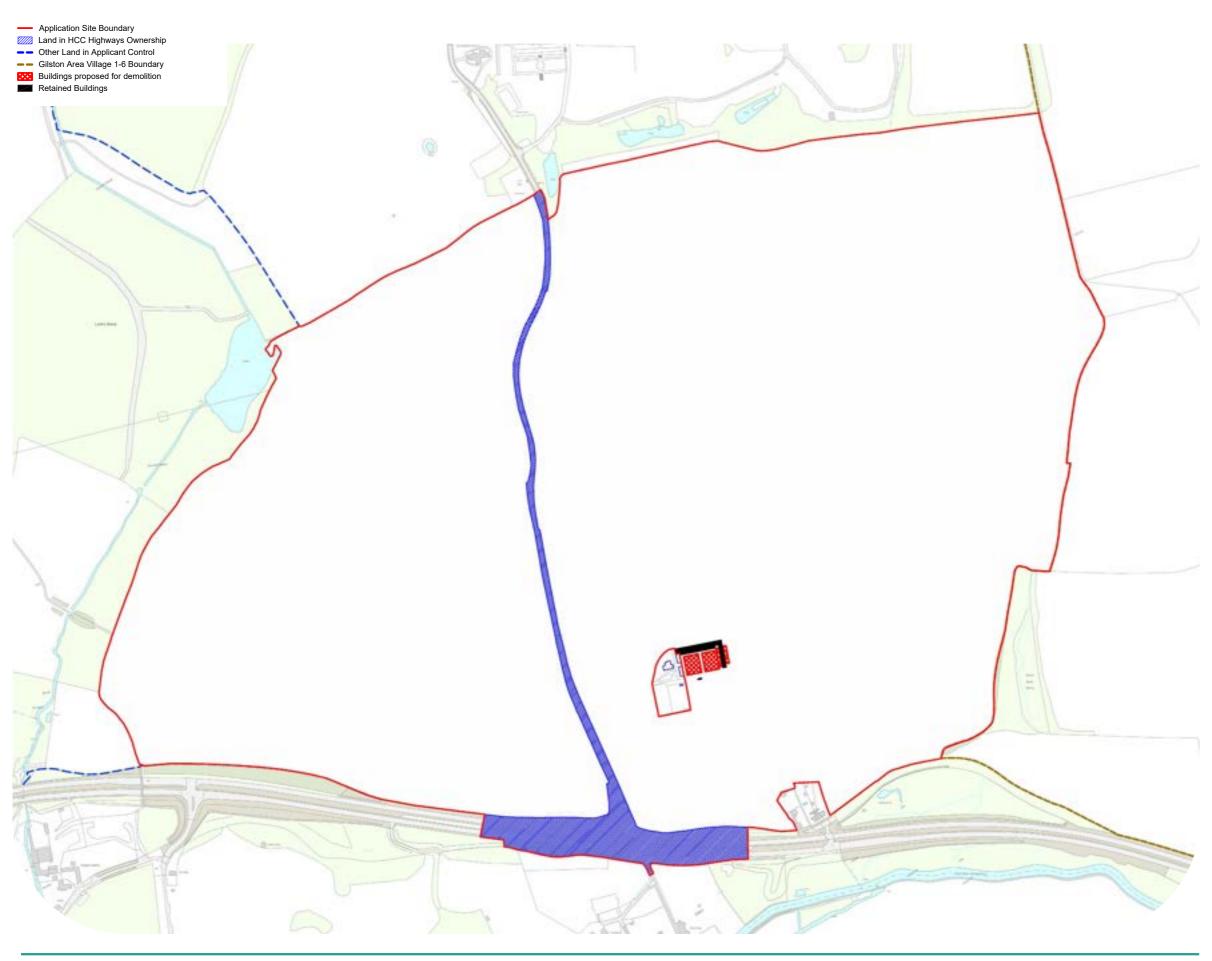
The Gilston Area is allocated for residential-led development in the East Herts District Plan (2018) under Policy GA1. An outline planning application (OPA) for Village 7 was submitted in October 2019. A resolution to grant approval of the application by East Herts District Council was received in March 2023. The OPA was assessed and resolved to be approved in line with local development plan policies and guided by associated guidance documents, all of which are fundamental in the creation of the emerging Village 7 Masterplan and Design Code.

The resolution to grant outline planning permission also approved a set of parameter plans, as shown below - which provide a baseline for development at Village 7.

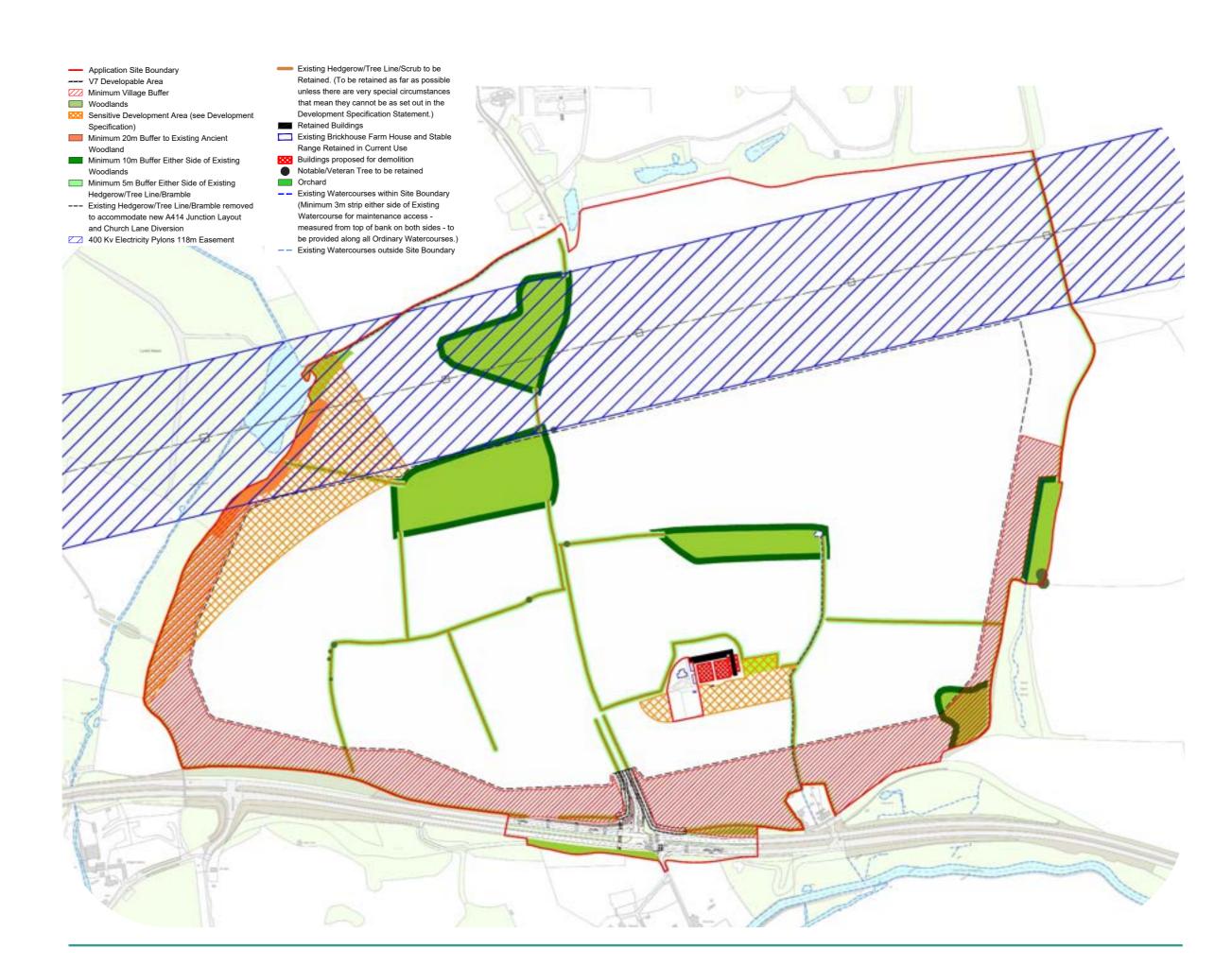
Condition D4 and D6 of the OPA require the submission of a Village Masterplan and a Design Code respectively. These documents will establish an overarching spatial plan, detailing the key components of the village and provide a set of comprehensive instructions for Reserved Matters of Detail. Production of the masterplan will be undertaken in collaboration with East Herts District Council, statutory bodies and the local community.



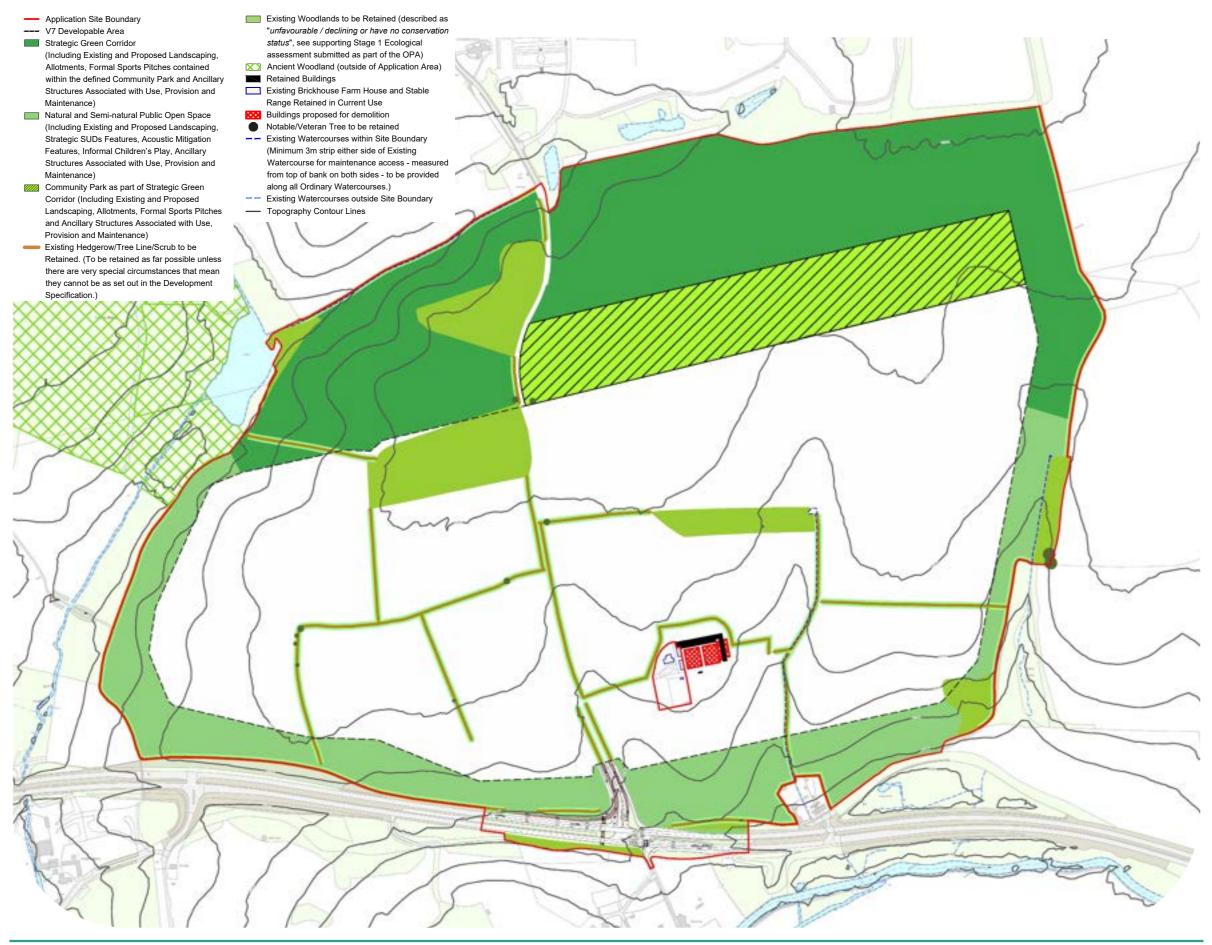
GA1 of the Gilston Area



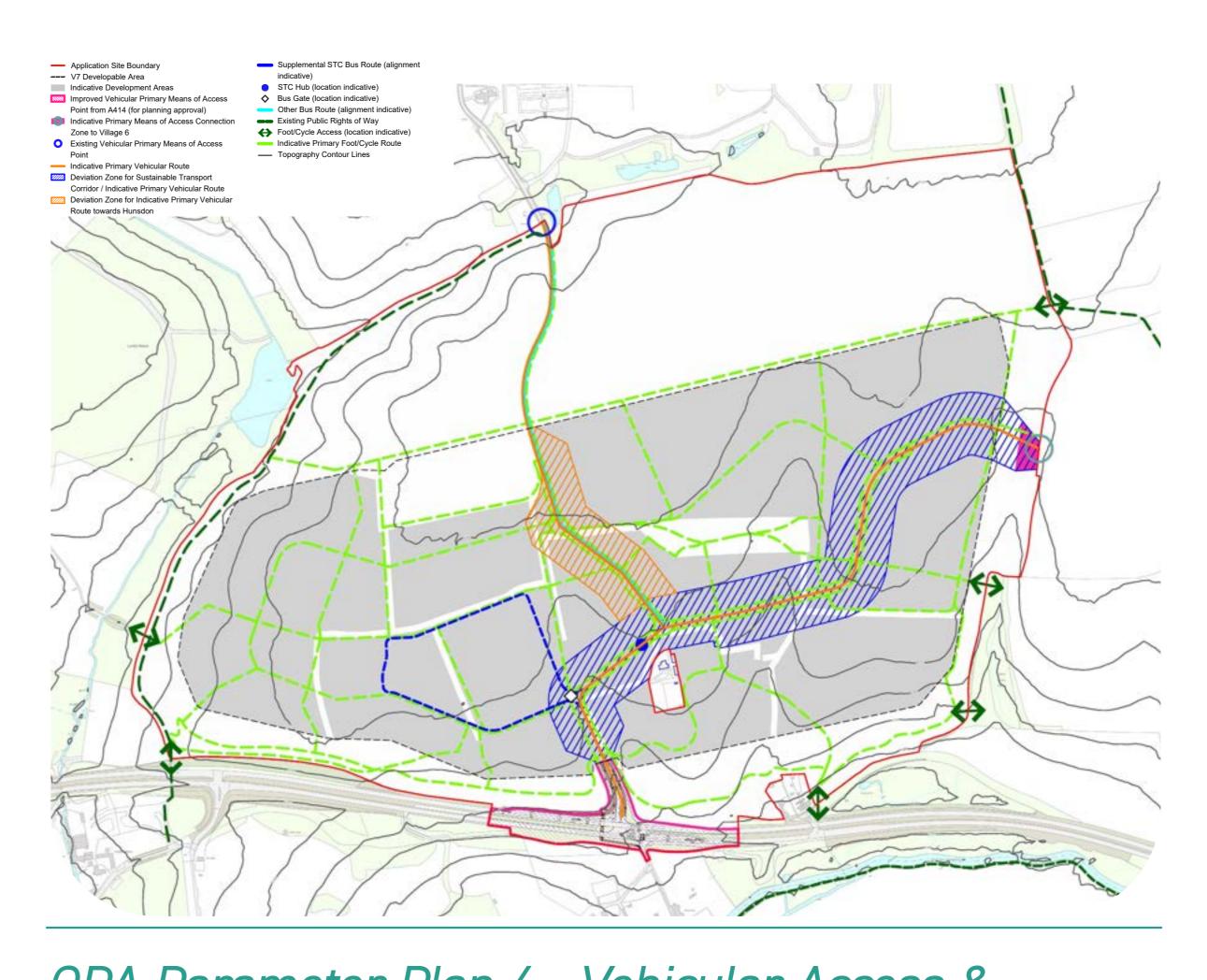
OPA Parameter Plan 1 - Site Location



OPA Parameter Plan 2 - Buffers and Development Zones



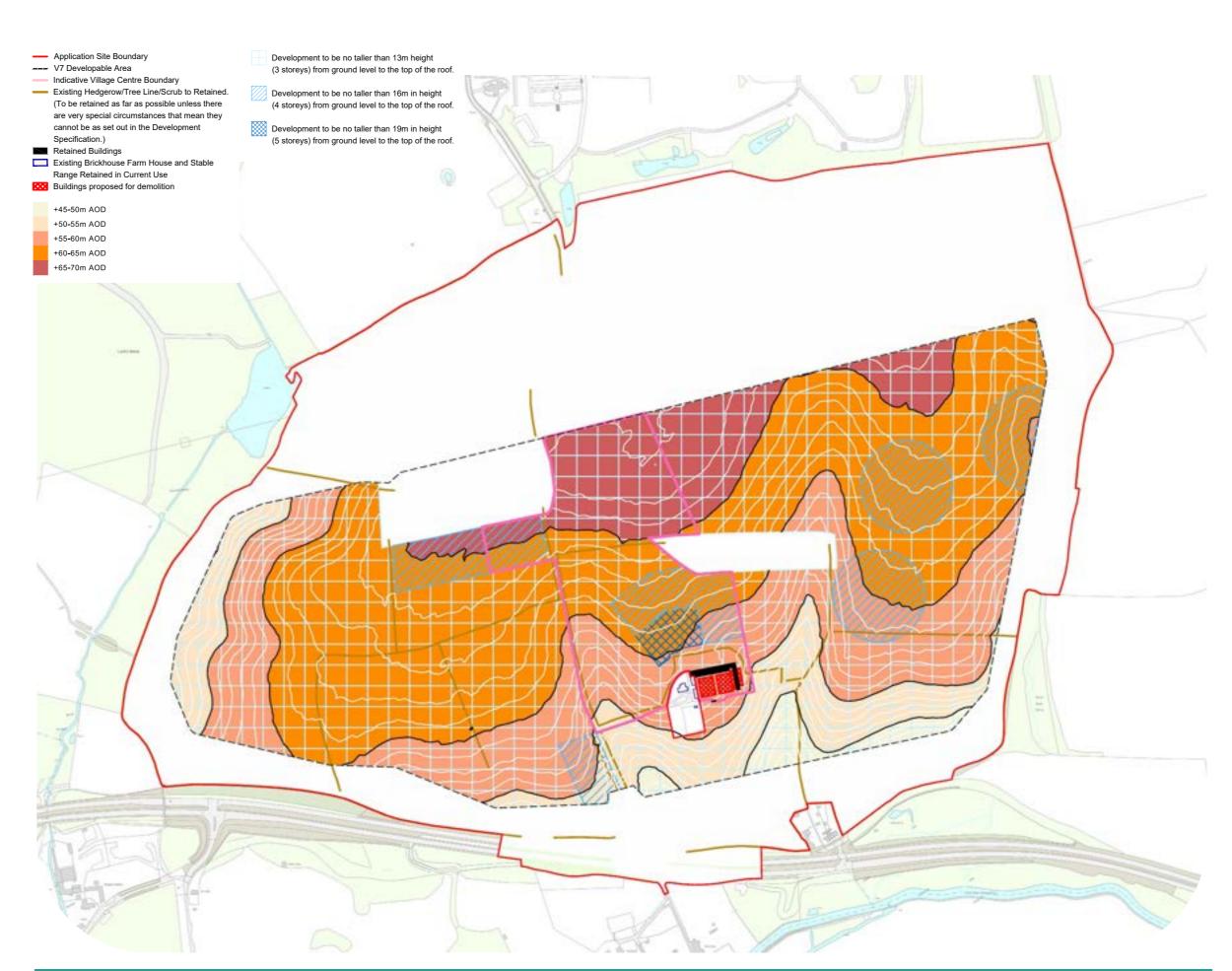
OPA Parameter Plan 3 - Green Infrastructure & Open Space



OPA Parameter Plan 4 - Vehicular Access & Movement



OPA Parameter Plan 5 - Land Use



OPA Parameter Plan 6 - Building Heights

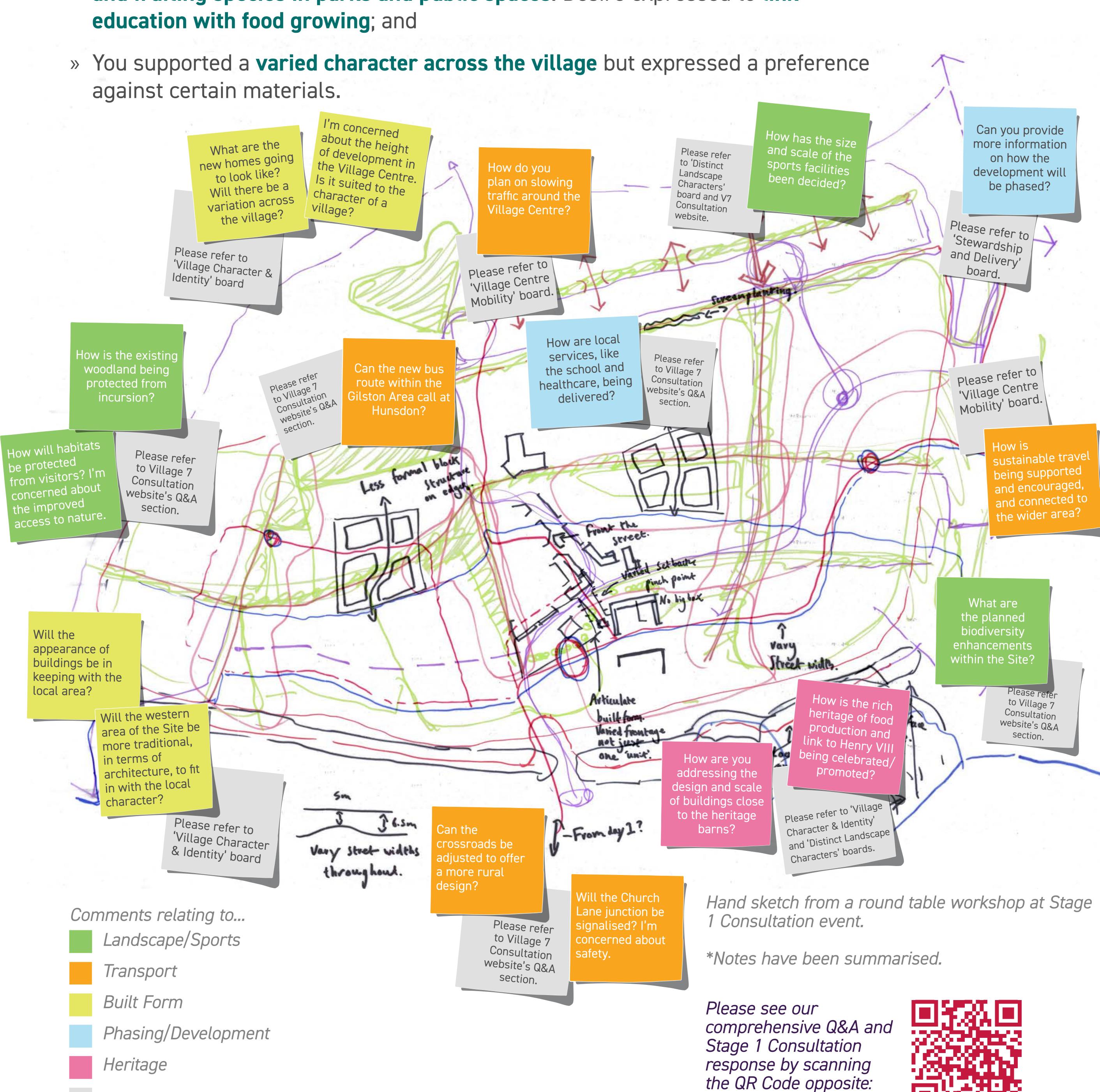
# YOUR FEEDBACK, WE LISTENED

# Gilston Area VILLAGE SEVEN

We have listened and taken on board your feedback from previous consultations and responded to them through the masterplanning and technical work. Below is a summary of feedback and questions received from different stakeholder groups, some of the responses have been incorporated on the following exhibition boards and for a more comprehensive response, please refer to the Village 7 consultation website.

#### **COMMUNITY FEEDBACK:**

- » You asked for more active travel connectivity;
- » You wanted to see local landmarks that are not either homes or businesses;
- » You requested more detail on how accessible Church Lane would be to farm and HGV traffic;
- » You prioritised sheltered waiting spaces at the Sustainable Transport Corridor Mobility Hub;
- » You proposed stronger acknowledgement of the site's history in food production;
- » Suggestions for allotments, kitchen gardens, community growing beds and fruiting species in parks and public spaces. Desire expressed to link education with food growing; and





V7 Team Response

## OTHER STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK:

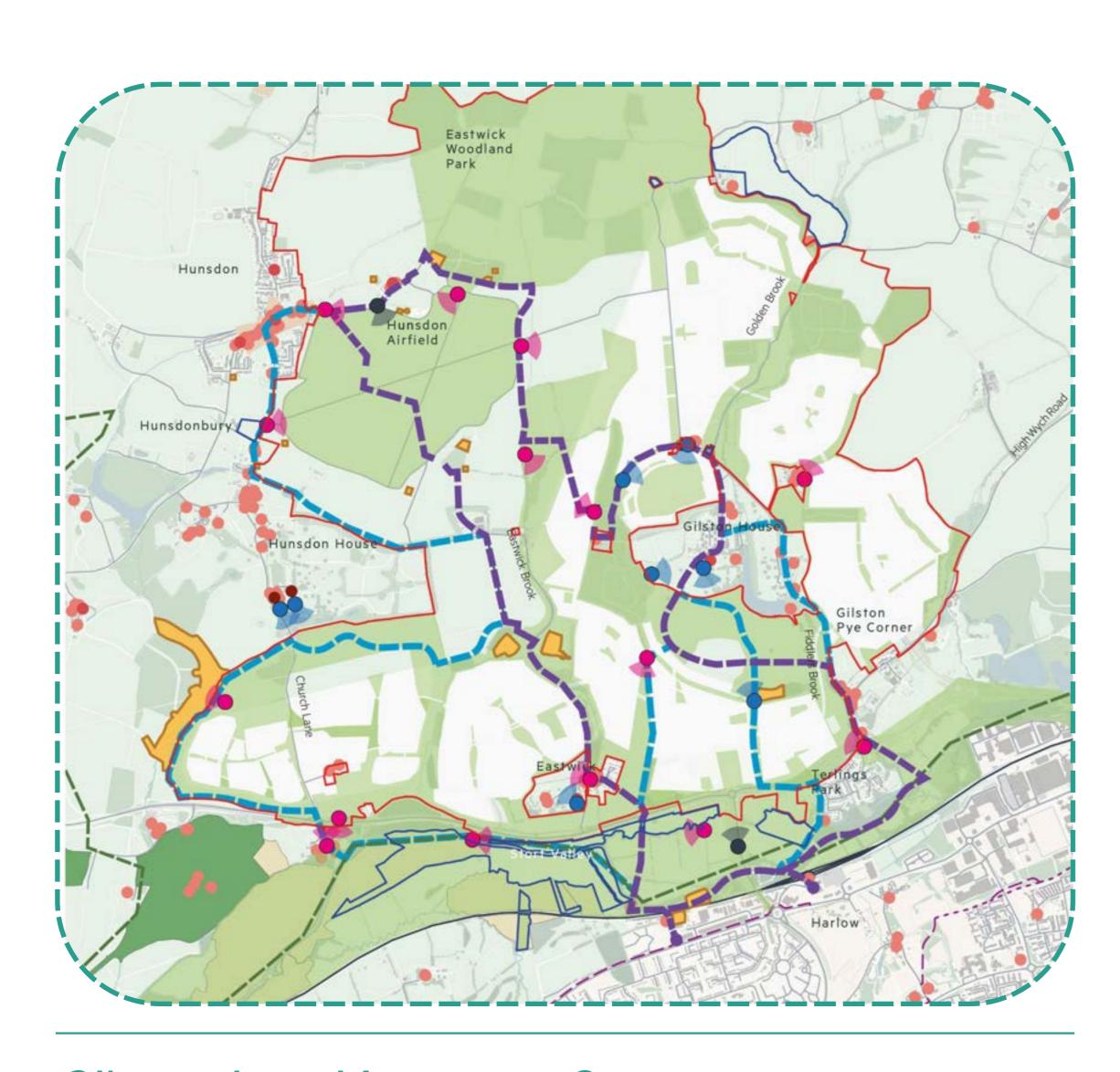
- » Neighbourhood Plan Group (NPG) would like to see an enhancement of PRoWs, particularly bridleways and pedestrian routes;
- » Public access to be directed away from protected spaces and Ancient Woodland;
- » EHDC observed that ideally a new pedestrian route would be provided to St Dunstan's Church;
- » Consideration to be given to bridleway and horses along the eastern perimeter of the Village 7;
- » More granularity in Character Areas; and
- » Connectivity of Key Active Travel Routes and how this will provide connections to community facilities such as schools, hubs and the Village 7 Village Centre and the wider Gilston Area.

# A WALKABLE NEIGHBOURHOOD

# Gilston Area VILLAGE SEVEN

Sustainable modes of travel are at the heart of our proposal for Village 7. Our target is to achieve a 60% sustainable transport mode share by creating a connected place where walking, cycling and public transport use are the first choice for getting around.





Gilston Area Movement Context

These routes will connect into active travel routes beyond Village 7, providing links to V1-6, Eastwick, Hunsdon, Harlow and Roydon Station. The active travel routes will be designed to be intuitive but also feature wayfinding and signage.

Village 7 will be a place where walking, wheeling and cycling are prioritised for both leisure and commuting purposes, reducing the use of the car for everyday journeys. New pedestrian and cycle links will run alongside the proposed streets but also on an off-street network of green corridors. The green corridors follow existing natural assets in the landscape, including hedgerows, woodlands and watercourses, linking key destinations across the villages, therefore, providing an attractive active travel environment.

The design of



bicycles will be

provided by residents'

doorsteps, which helps

establish an active

lifestyle from day

one.

meshed and integrated network of footpaths and cycle lanes within Village 7 and beyond will encourage residents and visitors to make more journeys by active travel.

Parking for bicycles will be well-screened and sheltered to ensure safe and weather-proof storage. Storage facilities will be provided at key locations for easy access.

**Existing Woodlands** 

Existing Hedgerow and Trees

**Existing Public Rights of Way** 

Secondary Road

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# VILLAGE CENTRE MOBILITY

# Gilston Area VILLAGE SEVEN

The Sustainable Transport Corridor (STC) will provide the key movement spine for active travel and public transport, connecting Village 7 and the Gilston Area to the wider Harlow Garden Town.





The STC will provide a vital early connection between Village 7 and Village 1. This will deliver a key sustainable route to education, employment, and community facility uses between villages.

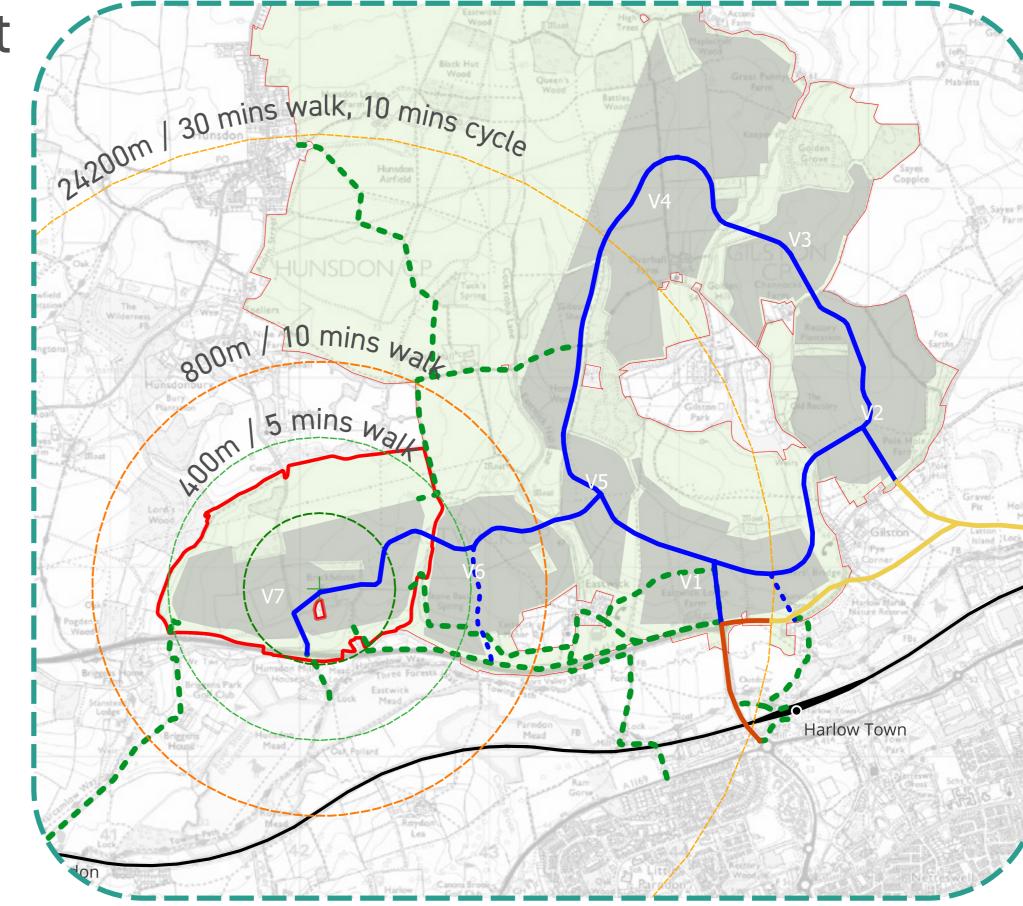
Central Stort Crossing
 Eastern Stort Crossing
 Sustainable Transport Corridor

New/improved off-site foot/cycle route

**GA Movement Network** 



In the long-term, the STC would also be able to accommodate the proposed Hertfordshire Essex Rapid Transit (HERT) project which could connect Village 7 to Hertford, St Albans and potential onward connections to Stansted Airport.



An STC Hub (Mobility Hub) will be provided within the Village Centre to maximise accessibility to centrally located local shops and offices throughout the Gilston Area and Harlow.

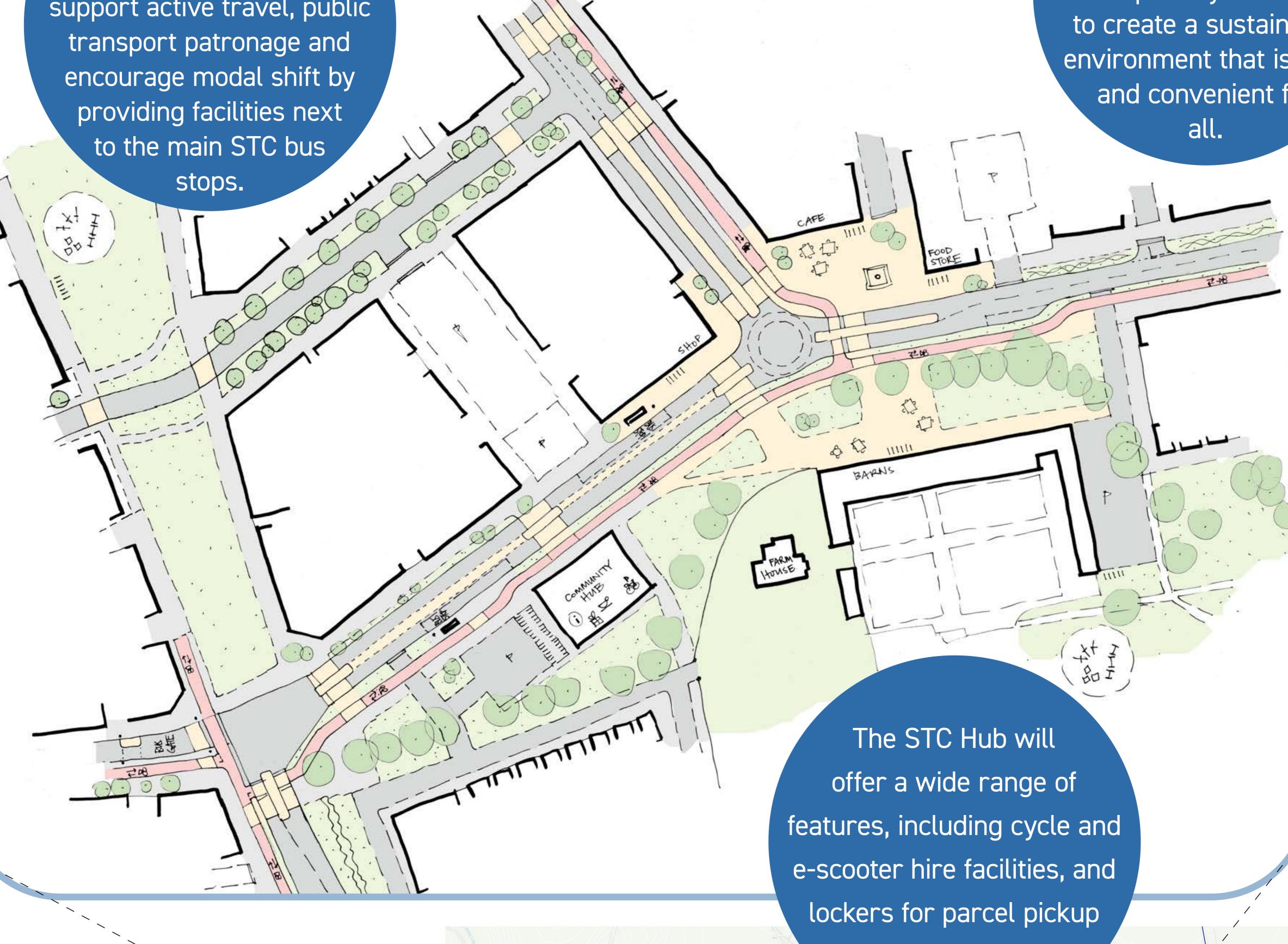
The
Hub will double
up as a Community
Centre to encourage and
support active travel, public
transport patronage and

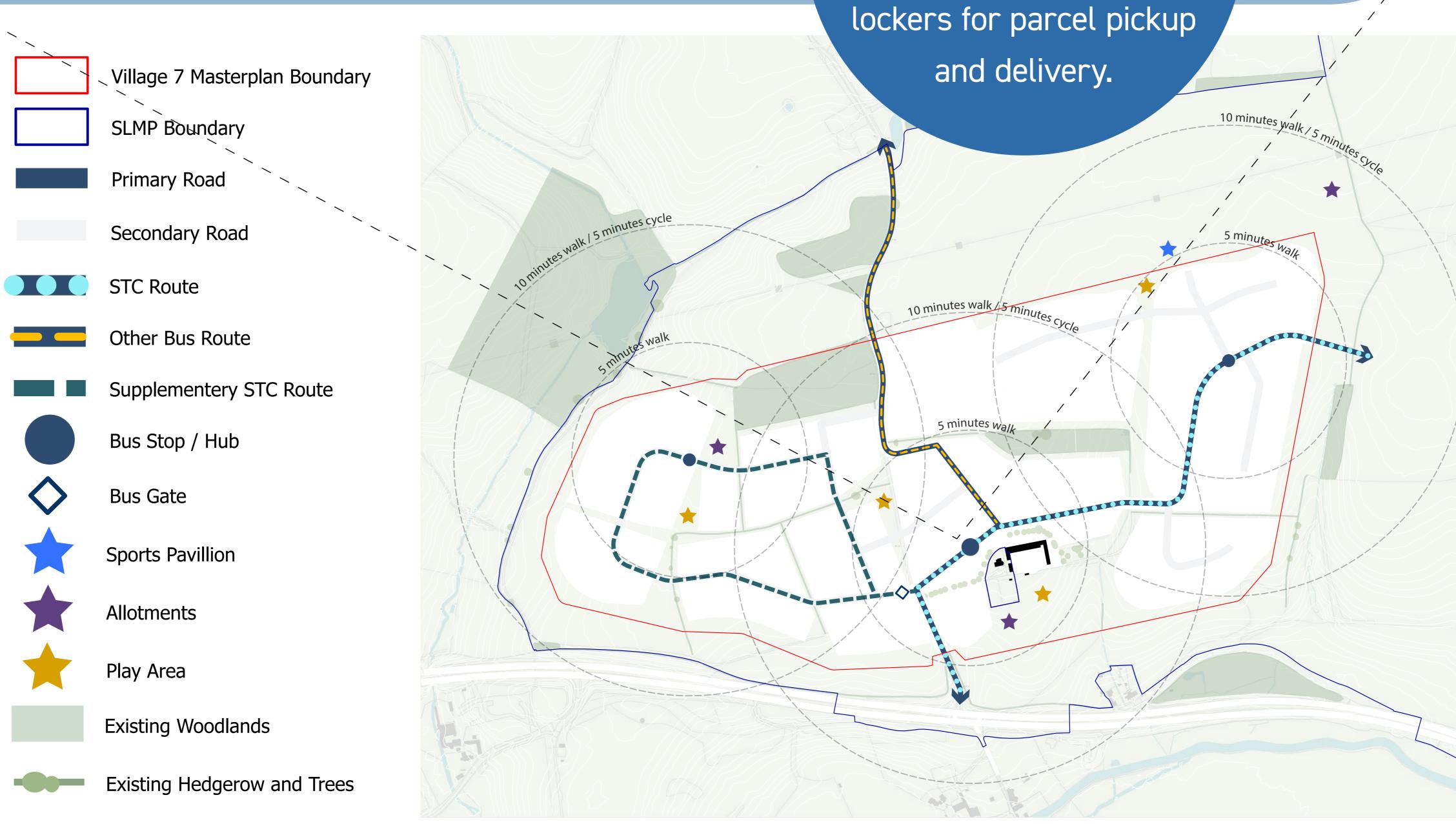
Illustrative view (left) and layout

(below) of the Village Centre.

Gilston Area Movement Context

Public
transport and
active travel such as
walking and cycling will
have priority over cars
to create a sustainable
environment that is safe
and convenient for
all.









# PRIMARY SCHOOL

# Gilston Area VILLAGE SEVEN

A Primary School of up to 3 forms of entry (up to 3,850sqm) along with an independent nursery will be delivered as part of Village 7 to meet the growing demand in the local area. Both facilities will be located within the Village Centre and have excellent access via a well-connected network of active travel routes and public transport connecting to and from other villages within the Gilston Area.



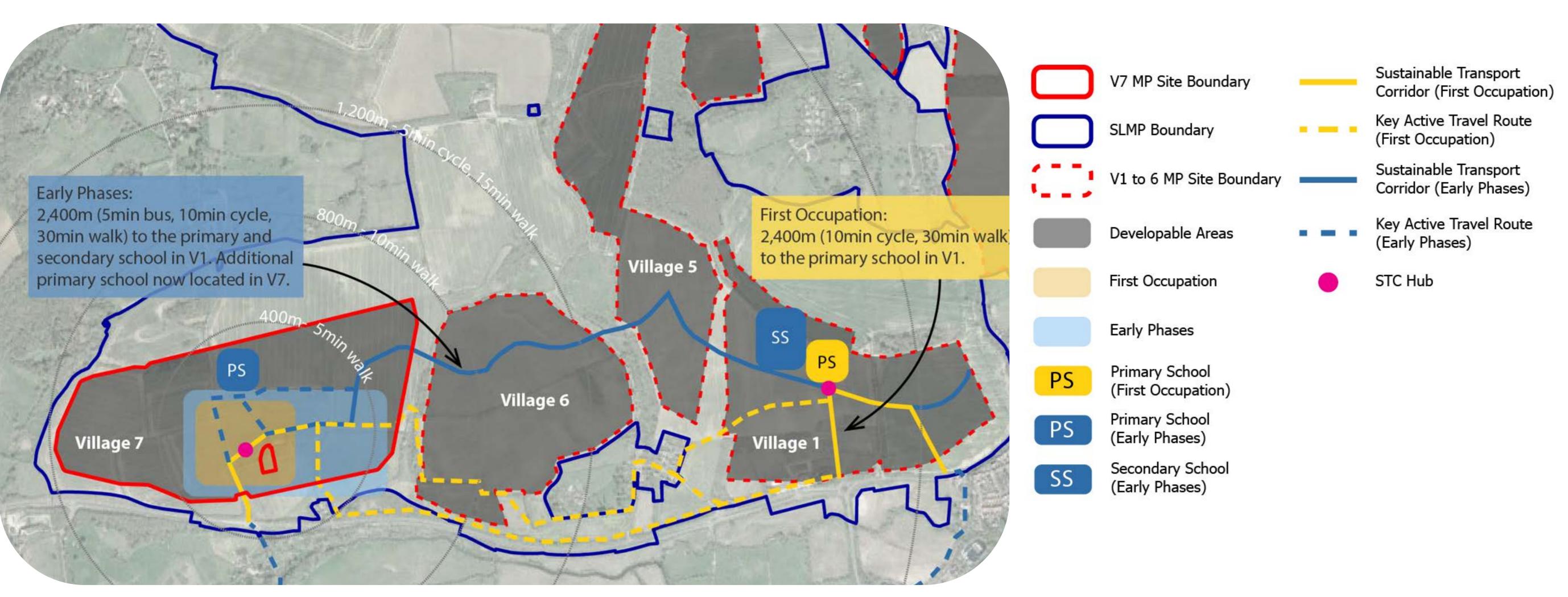
- School site to be located east of Church Lane and north of the proposed green corridor that will run along the existing and retained hedgerow.
- Direct access to be provided by strategic cycle and pedestrian routes. Cycle parking is offered adjacent to the active travel access route.
- Public realm area in front of the school to provide a pedestrian and cycle friendly environment and include traffic calming interventions.
- School playing fields to be a shared facility between the school and the Football Hub.
- Car parking is provided off of Church Lane to the west of the school building.

- School building is located 20m away from Church Lane to mitigate noise and air quality impacts.
- School building to actively address the public realm and have a prominent position to potentially capture vistas from the proposed north-south primary route and the east-west green corridor;
- Boundary to be secured. Boundary treatment to include planting to soften appearance of the fence and filter views into the school.
- Additional residential development could be facilitated should the need for school expansion not be required.



Illustrative Masterplan of the Primary School.

\*Final design subject to discussion with HCC.



Access to the Primary School - early occupation and first phases.

# CELEBRATING LOCAL HISTORY

# Gilston Area VILLAGE SEVEN

There are a number of locally and nationally recognised heritage assets within and around the site that the masterplan seeks to protect and celebrate. The proposals will promote opportunities to increase public appreciation and understanding of heritage assets by integrating them in a respectful manner which aims to inspire future generations.



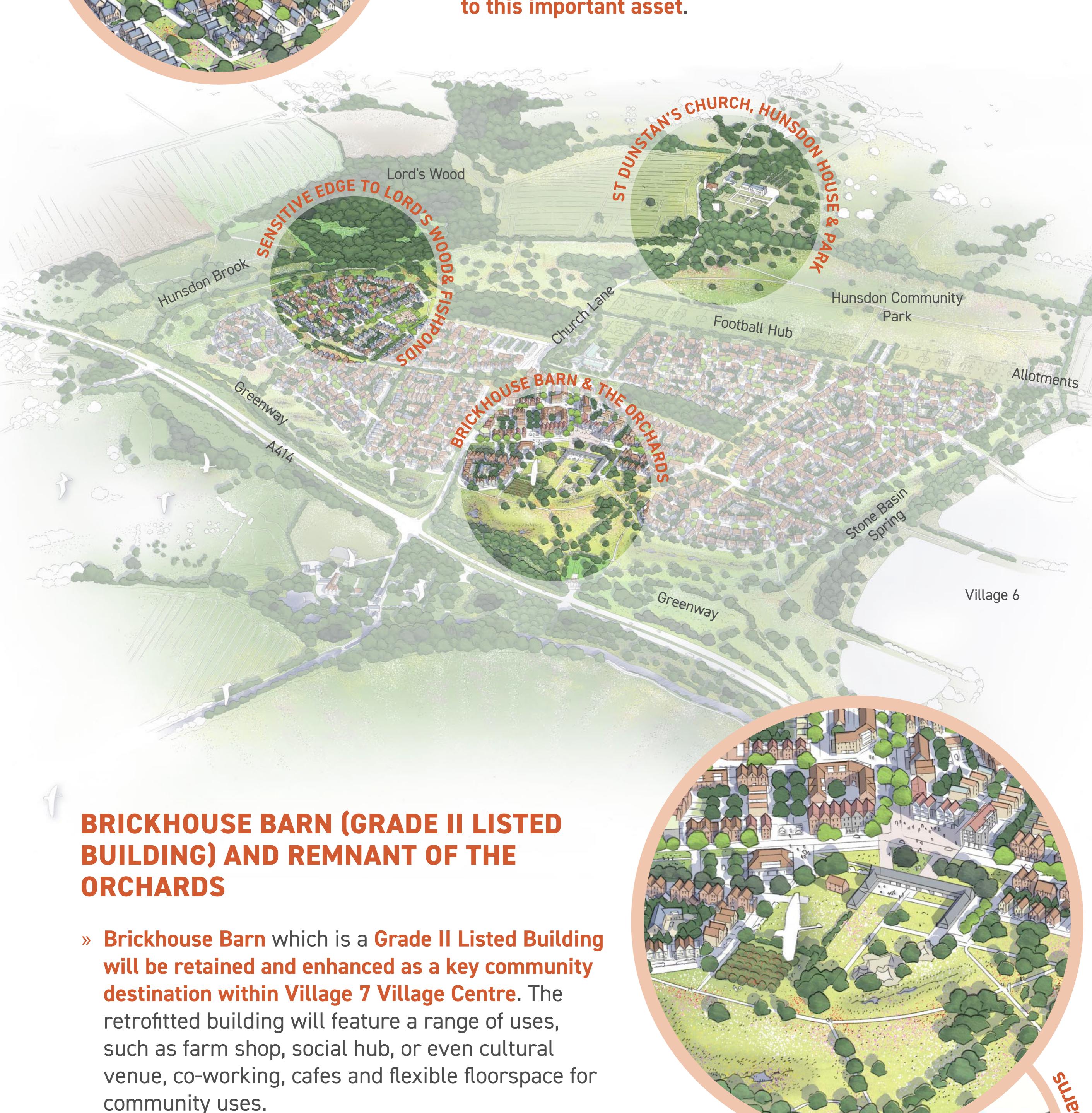
## ST DUNSTAN'S CHURCH, HUNSDON HOUSE AND PARK

- » Historically, the Grade I Listed Hunsdon House was once a palace owned by Henry VIII which then became a country residence for the King and his descendants. The house and its setting were surrounded by deer park and used as a hunting ground.
- » Views to the House and its setting (Hunsdon House Historic Park) will be preserved and protected from visual encroachment and/or pollution by allowing a sufficient setback to the edge of the development.



# SENSITIVE EDGE TO THE EAST OF THE FISHPONDS AND LORD'S WOOD ANCIENT WOODLAND

» The overall character and appearance of the setting of Hunsdon Brook Fishponds, which is a Scheduled Monument in Lord's Wood, will be preserved and protected. Lowest densities will be applied along this edge to ensure the development sensitively responds to this important asset.



» Remnant of the Orchards south of Brickhouse

additional areas of community allotments and food

Farm will be preserved and enriched with

production.

# DISTINCT LANDSCAPE CHARACTERS

# Gilston Area VILLAGE SEVEN

### A SENSITIVE RESPONSE TO EDGES

- » The Neighbourhood Plan highlights the importance of sensitive edges to development to ensure a rural condition is maintained around villages.
- » Green buffers with tree planting are included around the village perimeter to soften and screen the impact of new built development on the surrounding landscape.
- » The northern edge was previously regarded as too severe and this has been redesigned to include an undulating boundary between residential development and semi-natural open space.

# ALLOTMENTS & GYPSY TRAVELLER (G&T) SITE

- » 3 allotment sites will be provided to ensure good access to growing space across Village 7.
- » A G&T site for up to 8 plots (circa 700-800sqm each) plus additional grazing area to the west with vegetated screening.
- » A 50m buffer will be included between the edge of residential dwellings and the G&T plots.



#### FOOTBALL HUB AND PAVILION BUILDING

- The Football Hub will comprise a total of 6 grass and artificial grass pitches to accommodate wide range of users from different age groups. The pitches will be adequately lit to ensure surveillance and safety.
- » A Sports Pavilion will be located centrally at key location to mark vista from the green corridor.
- » The southern edge of the Football Hub will consist of planting and a landscape buffer to minimise noise impact to the development along the northern edge.



#### LANDSCAPE **CHARACTER AREAS** VILLAGE EDGES Green Buffer Hunsdon Community Park **GREEN CORRIDORS** Allotment **Green Corridor West** Sports Pavilion **Green Corridor East** Gypsy & Lord's Woods Football Hub Traveller Hedgerows Compatible Site Ancillary Uses Fishponds VILLAGE CENTRE AMENITIES Existing Woodland Neighbourhood Park Village Centre Public Realm Existing Allotment School Woodland Secondary and Tertiary Routes Church Lane within Developer Parcels Green Village Allotment Green Way Green Way A414

# A STRATEGIC GREENWAY CONNECTING VILLAGE 7 TO THE WIDER GILSTON AREA

- » Running along the southern edge of Village 7, the Greenway provides an acoustic barrier (bund) and key green and blue infrastructure. It will feature dense planting on the southern side and a species-rich grassland SuDS basins to the north. It will also act as an elevated pedestrian and cycle connection for leisure purposes.
- » A pedestrian/ cycle link to the bridge across the A414 will be provided to allow for a cycle connection to Roydon Station.

# PRODUCTIVE LANDSCAPE & FOOD GROWING

Gilston Area
VILLAGE
SEVEN

The landscape surrounding the Site, including the hunting grounds and fish ponds, previously supplied Hunsdon House. More recently the Site has been in agricultural use. We are keen to capture this heritage in the landscape proposals for Village 7.



# FORAGING SPECIES WITHIN GREEN CORRIDORS

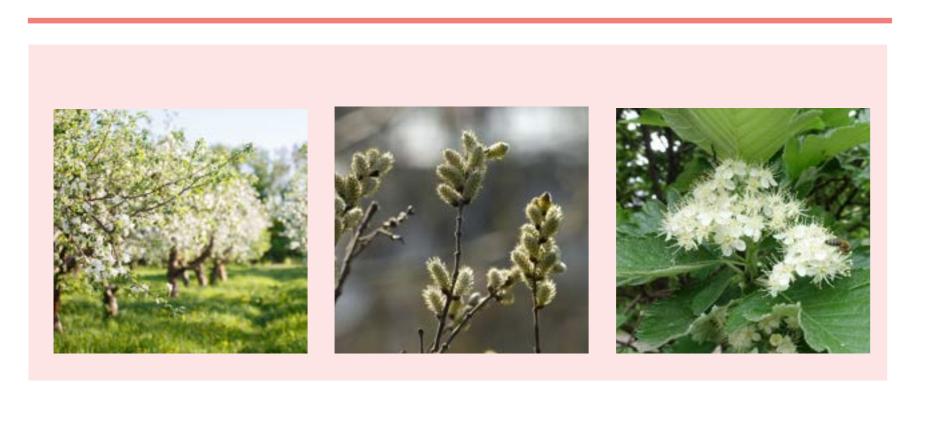
- » There is an opportunity to animate the green corridors as 'foraging trails' with nut and fruit bearing tree and shrub species.
- » Native fruiting tree species such as apple, pear, plum, damson and quince can build on the Tudor heritage of the area.
- » Fruit and nut bearing trees add good seasonal interest with spring blossom and autumn fruits.
- » Giving children the opportunity to forage creates a strong connection to nature.

# HARVEST FESTIVAL EVENTS AT BRICKHOUSE BARNS

- » The renovated barns will provide a space for civic events; and
- » Celebrating the productive landscape through harvest festival events at the barn could be a great way to connect people to nature and create a sense of tradition.



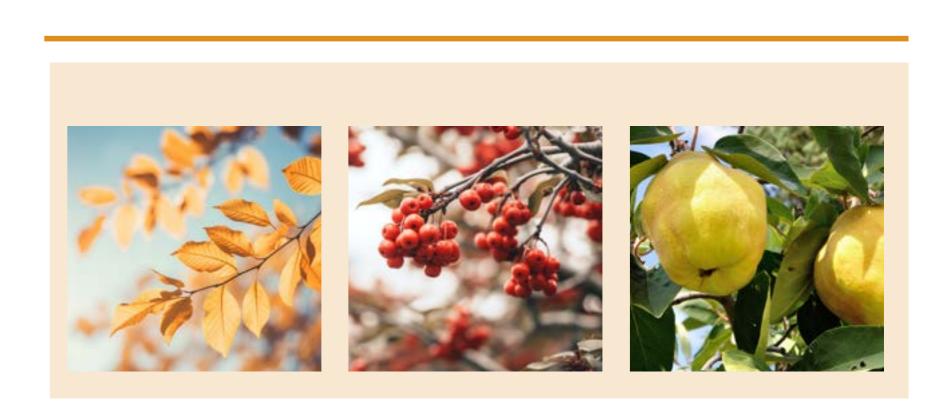
## SPRING



## SUMMER



## AUTUMN



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create a local attraction for not only the

residents of Village 7 but also the wider

Gilston and surrounding area.

# A COMMUNITY FOCUSED VILLAGE

# Gilston Area VILLAGE SEVEN

Community facilities and amenities are fundamental in supporting a vibrant and sustainable village life and help to create a great place to live, work and play. The listed Brickhouse Barn together with the Village Square and the STC Hub will form the heart of Village 7 and will become a destination that fosters growth and social interaction.





Village 7 will deliver up to 1,500 new homes and a mixed-use Village Centre which consists of local shops, food stores, offices, co-working spaces and community-oriented spaces.



The Primary School (up to 3FE) and an Independent Nursery will be provided along active travel route to ensure safe and easy access for all children and parents.



Village 7 will have a collective identity with the other 6 villages within the wider Gilston Area while having distinct individual characters that reflect the essence of the site and its immediate surrounding.



There will be a range of designs and building forms that respond sensitively to the existing site features and assets, particularly along the development edges, to have a positive relationship with the countryside beyond.



Homes will be of high quality with a balanced and rich variety of building design, including the use of high-spec and sustainable material treatment, that is influenced by local vernacular architecture.





Landmark building at

key corner to create

definition around

Village Square

Retained Brickhouse
Barn with Community
facilities/cafes and
restaurants

Community Centre and Mobility Hub

High-quality pedestrian and cycle crossings

Listed farm

house



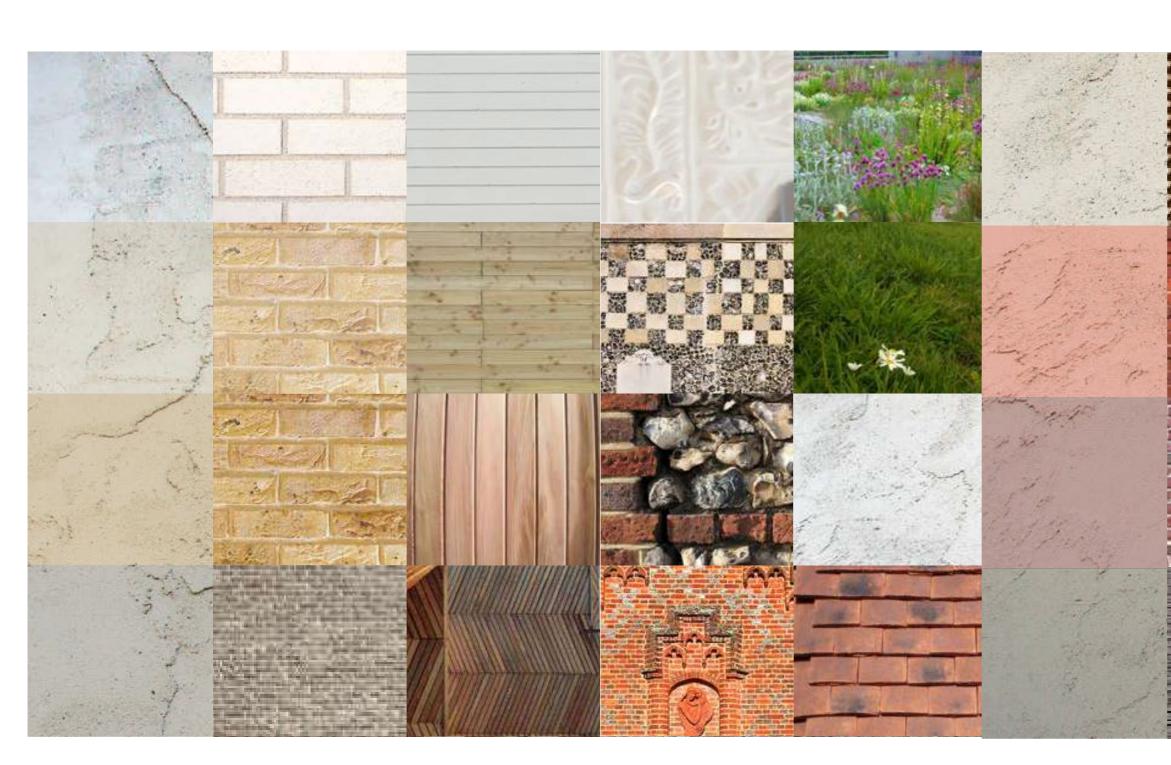
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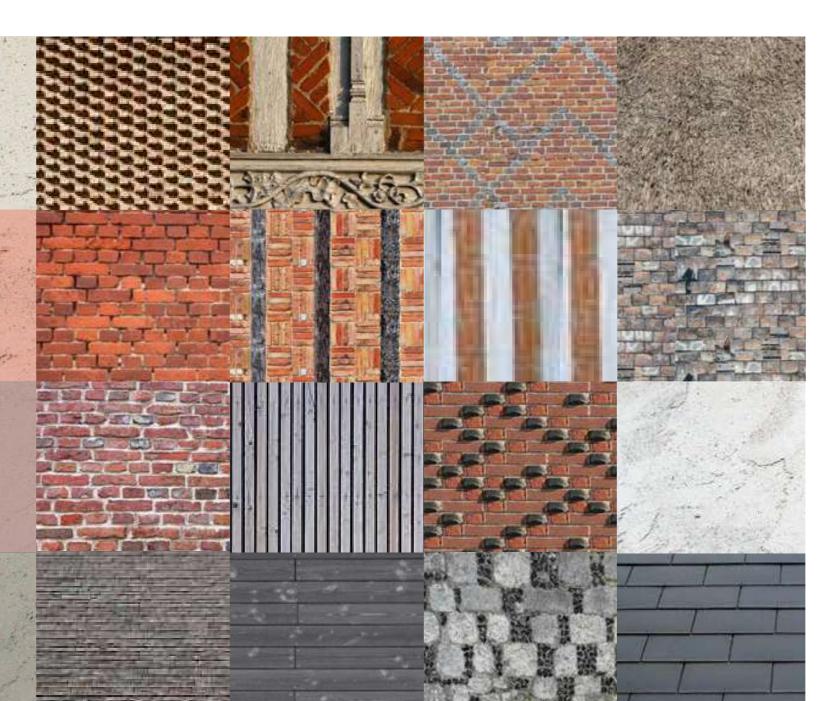
# VIIIAGE CHARACTER & IDENIITY

## Gilston Area VILLAGE S E V E N

Three overall Character Areas with additional sub-Character Areas are envisaged for Village 7. The unique nature of each Character Area will provide a sensitive response to existing landscape and heritage assets of the Site. The Character Areas will create a series of distinct neighbourhoods, each with a unique sense of place and identity, reflected in the building scale, block layout, density, architectural expression and public realm design.







Building material for Village 7 will follow guidance as set out in the Strategic Design Guide (opposite) for the wider Gilston Area. Material selection will be varied across all Character Areas in response to the immediate context.

#### **WESTERN AREA**

Most sensitive and contains medium to low density area within Village 7, with a distinctive verdant, leafy and rural character.

Creates a sense of openness and living close to nature with an informal built form.

#### VILLAGE CENTRE HEART

Inspired by the listed Brickhouse Barn and locating in the centre of Village 7, the layout and built form of the Village Centre Heart reflects the formality and regularity with higher density development, creating a



This area is an important gateway into Village 6 and the wider Gilston Area, therefore, a strong sense of place and identity will be established at the eastern gateway.

The overall layout and built form has a lower degree of formality compared to the Village Centre

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# STEWARDSHIP & DELIVERY

# Gilston Area VILLAGE SEVEN

# PROVIDING FACILITIES AND COMMUNITY ASSETS FOR LONG TERM STEWARDSHIP



Taylor Wimpey and Places for People will create a new stewardship and legacy organisation prior to first occupation, to own and manage all the public facilities. This will ensure they are fully maintained, and managed as well as serving the needs of the community in perpetuity.

This organisation will be created as a charitable trust and will use those facilities to help build a sense of community by hosting events, activities, and encourage new community groups.

## THE FOUR PILLARS OF SUCCESSFUL STEWARDSHIP

#### **COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE**

Own, maintain and manage the country parks, play spaces, allotments, community gardens and public open spaces, sports pitches and community facilities

#### **COMMUNITY WELL-BEING**

Support the development of an integrated, healthy, and sustainable community through a programme of activities and events which encourage and facilitate participation in community life

#### **GOVERNANCE**

Establish a bespoke governance structure which brings together all stakeholders to discuss, initiate, oversee and deliver the Stewardship and Governance Strategy

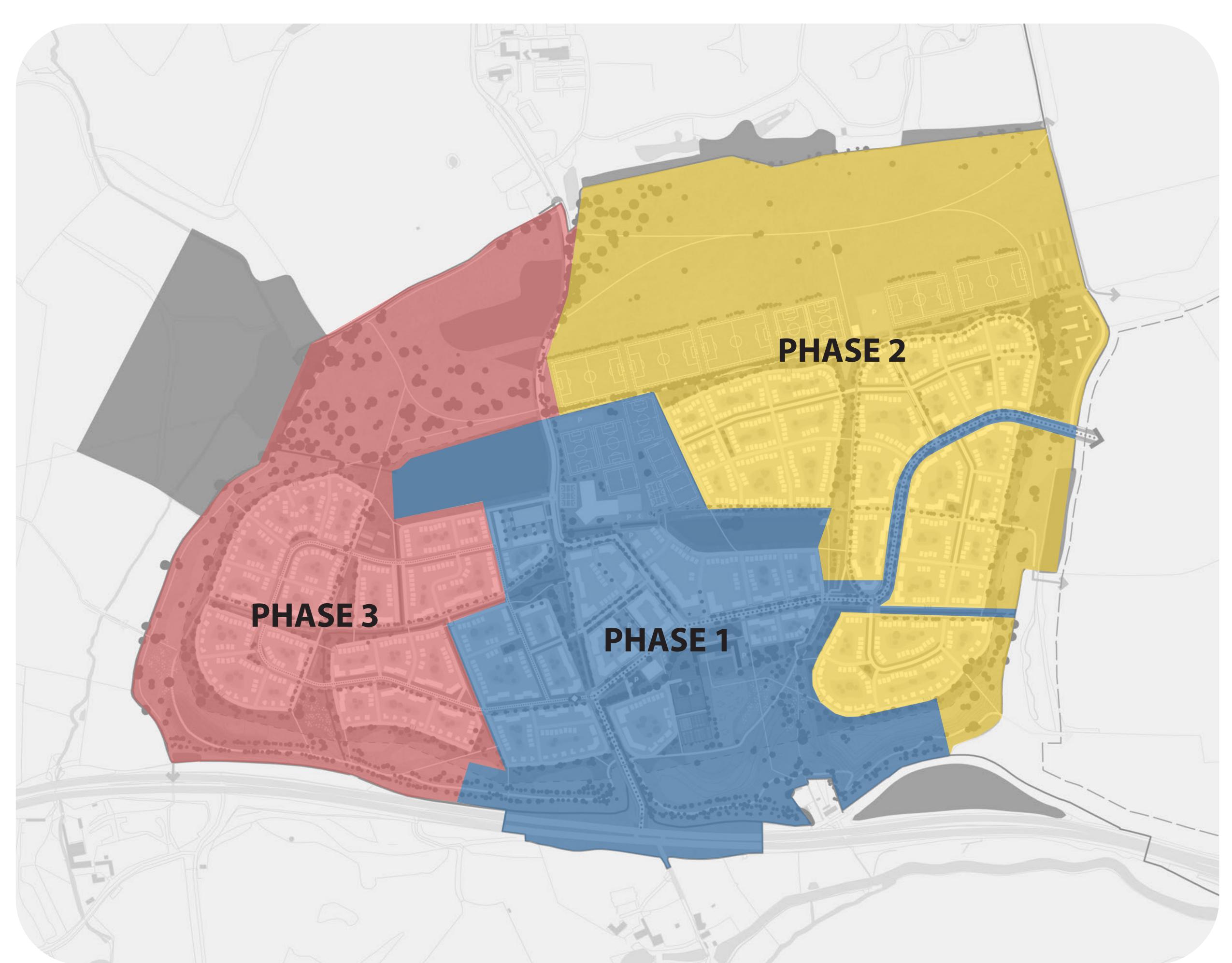
#### **FINANCE AND RESOURCES**

Ensure sustainable finance for the startup of the organisation, bringing on board staff and financial resources capable of operating and sustaining the Stewardship

Trust in the long term

## PHASING AND DELIVERY

Please find below an indicative phasing plan which indicates how the development at Village 7 can come forward (subject to further discussion and planning permission):



# VILLAGE 7 BENEFITS & NEXT STEPS

# Gilston Area VILLAGE SEVEN

## In summary, Village 7 will deliver:



## **UP TO 1,500 NEW, HIGH QUALITY**

**HOMES** including affordable and accessible homes of different sizes and tenures.



## **SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT**

**CORRIDOR** that strategically connects Village 7 to other villages within the Gilston Area and also the wider area beyond.



### A LOCAL VILLAGE CENTRE to

accommodate a wide range of community uses, nursery and flexible uses such as co-working space.



## FLOORSPACE within Local Village

**UP TO 5,100 SQM COMMERCIAL** 

Centre that is flexible and adaptable to meet future demand.



**NURSERY.** 

#### A PRIMARY SCHOOL (UP TO 3FE) and potentially an INDEPENDENT

Several INTEGRATED AND NATURAL

PLAY AREAS including LAPs, LEAPs and NEAPs for children and teens to encourage play and social activities.



## A total of 47.75 HECTARES OF **EXTENSIVE AREA OF PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE OPEN SPACE AND**

GARDENS, creating a local destination where new and existing residents can enjoy and live in a ecologically diverse landscape setting.



## Areas of **PRODUCTIVE LANDSCAPES**

consisting of allotments and community orchards to encourage residents to grow their own and build a sense of community.



### Approximately 15.56 HECTARES OF OUTDOOR SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES,

comprising of a Football Hub and Village Playing Field to promote and healthy and active lifestyle.



A SUSTAINABLE STEWARDSHIP **SOLUTION** to care for community assets in the long term.



Today is your opportunity to give further feedback on the emerging Masterplan for Village 7. We will continue to take your feedback onboard and report back with our final changes before our Reserved Matters Planning Application is submitted later in 2024.

If you would prefer to complete a form in your own time, you can either take one home and return it to: Freepost-Cratus Communications, Fora, 180 Borough High Street, SE1 1LB or you can complete an online form at https://village7.co.uk/.

## PLEASE SEND US YOUR FEEDBACK BY 15TH FEBRUARY 2024.

Our reporting back webinar will show how we have responded to your feedback throughout both Round 1 and Round 2 of the consultation.

https://village7.co.uk/